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**GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA
LAW DEPARTMENT
SECRETARIAT, AGARTALA.**

NO.F.2(9)-LAW/ESTT.2/2024/8126

Dated, Agartala, the 4th November, 2025

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred by the proviso to Article 309 read with Article 233 and Article 234 of the Constitution of India, the Hon'ble Governor of Tripura, in consultation with the Hon'ble High Court of Tripura and the Tripura Public Service Commission, is pleased to make the following Rules to further amend the Tripura Judicial Service Rules, 2003 (**hereinafter referred to as the 'Principal Rules'**) namely:-

1. Short Title and Commencement:

- (i) These Rules may be called the "Tripura Judicial Service (Thirteenth Amendment) Rules, 2025".
- (ii) They shall come into force from the date of their publication in Tripura Gazette.

2. Amendment of Rule-7

The existing Rule 7 of the Principal Rules shall be substituted by the following words:

"7. METHOD OF RECRUITMENT, QUALIFICATION, RESERVATION AND AGE LIMIT

- (1) In respect of each category of posts specified in column (2) of the table below, the method of recruitment and minimum qualification, age limit etc., are specified in the corresponding entries in columns (3) and (4) thereof.
- (2) Except as otherwise provided herein, all appointments and promotions to the service shall be made against a grade and not against any specific post included in the service.
- (3) For direct recruitment in Grade – I and Grade – III, each candidate after selection must execute a bond with the State Government to the effect that he/she shall not voluntarily quit the service within a period of 5 years of entry into the service failing which he/she will have to pay the entire amount of expenses incurred for his/her pre – posting training as may be determined by the State Judicial Academy including the salary received by him/her during such training.

Sl. No.	Cadre	Method of Recruitment	Qualification, age limit etc.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1.	Grade - I (under direct recruitment quota)	Not exceeding 25% of the posts in the Grade may be filled by direct recruitment on the basis of the aggregate marks / grade secured in a competitive examination conducted by the High Court, as specified in Schedule B of the Rules.	1. Must be holder of degree in law of a recognized University. 2. Must be practicing as an advocate in Courts of Civil and Criminal jurisdiction on the last date fixed for receipt of applications and must have so practiced for a period of not less than seven years as on such date. 3. Must have attained the age of thirty five years and must not have attained the age of forty eight years in the case of candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes and forty five years in the case of others, as on the last date fixed for receipt of applications.
2.	Grade - I (under promotion quota)	50% of the posts in the grade shall be filled by promotion from the cadre of Grade – II of the Service on the basis of merit cum seniority by the High Court, following the criteria in Schedule 'C'.	1. Must have been in the cadre of Grade – II for a period of not less than 5 years.
3.	Grade - I (under LDCE quota)	Remaining 25% of the posts in the Grade shall be filled up by promotion on the basis of merit through Limited Departmental Competitive Examination (LDCE) conducted by the High Court as specified in Schedule – B of the Rules. Provided that if candidates are not available for 25% of seats or are not able to qualify the examination then vacant posts shall be filled up by regular promotion on the basis of 'merit-cum-seniority' in that particular year.	1. Must have been in the cadre of Grade – II for a period of not less than 3 years. 2. The total service required to be undertaken including service rendered as a Civil Judge (Junior Division) and Civil Judge (Senior Division) shall be a minimum of 7 years.

		Provided further that filling up of the vacant posts in the ratio considered for LDCE will have to be carried out from the simultaneous selection process carried out for regular promotions of the same year.	
4.	Selection Grade Scale	35% of the posts in Grade – I shall be in Selection Grade to be filled by promotion by the High Court from the Officers in Grade-I in accordance with the procedure laid down in Schedule 'C'	1. Must have served in Grade – I for not less than five years.
5.	Super Time Grade Scale	15% of the posts in Grade – I shall be in the Super Time Scale to be filled by promotion by the High Court from the officers in Selection Grade in accordance with the procedure laid down in Schedule 'C'.	1. Must have served not less than three years in the Selection Grade.
6.	Grade – II (under promotion quota)	90% of the posts in the Grade– II shall be filled up by promotion from the cadre of Grade – III selected by the High Court on the basis of criteria indicated in Schedule 'C'.	1. Must have been in the cadre of Grade – III for a period of not less than five years.
7.	Grade – II (under LDCE quota)	10% of the posts in the Grade– II shall be reserved for accelerated promotion of Civil Judge (Junior Division) through Limited Departmental Competitive Examination (LDCE) conducted by the High Court as specified in Schedule – B of the Rules. Provided that if candidates are not available for 10% of seats or are not able to qualify the examination then vacant	Must have been in the cadre of Grade – III for a period of not less than three years.

		posts shall be filled up by regular promotion on the basis of 'merit-cum-seniority' in that particular year. Provided further that filling up of the vacant posts in the ratio considered for LDCE will have to be carried out from the simultaneous selection process carried out for regular promotions of the same year.	
8.	Grade – III	By filling up the posts on the basis of the competitive examination to be conducted by the High Court or the Tripura Public Service Commission (TPSC) in the manner indicated in schedule 'B'. The High Court shall determine whether the competitive examination for any given year or years is to be conducted by itself or by the TPSC.	1. Must be holder of degree in law granted by a recognized University established by Law in India. 2. Must not have completed, as on the last date fixed for receipt of applications 38 years of age in the case of candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes and 35 years of age in the case of others. 3. Must have practiced for a minimum period of three years. 4. Must produce a Certificate to that effect duly certified either by the Principal Judicial Officer of the Court concerned or by an Advocate of that Court having a minimum standing of 10 years duly endorsed by the Principal Judicial Officer of such a District or station. 5. Candidates practicing before the Supreme Court or the High Court shall produce a Certificate to be certified by an Advocate who has a minimum standing of 10 years duly endorsed by an officer designated by the Supreme Court or the High Court. In case of High Court of Tripura, such endorsement shall be

			done by the Registrar (Judicial). 6. The experience of the candidates gained while working as Law Clerks with any of the Judges or Judicial Officers in the country shall be considered while calculating the total number of years of practice. 7. The number of years of practice completed by the candidates shall be calculated from the date of their provisional enrolment/registration with the concerned State Bar Council.
9.	Grade-III (Tenure appointment)	The Governor may in consultation with the High Court, make tenure appointment in the grade for a specified period in public interest in accordance with the procedure as the High Court may by order formulate.	Qualification, age limit etc, for tenure appointment in the grade for specified period shall be as the High Court may by order prescribe.

3. Amendment of Rule 18

The existing Rule 18 of the Principal Rules shall be substituted by the following words:

"18. SENIORITY: -

- (1) An officer appointed or promoted in accordance with the Rules, on regular basis shall be senior to persons appointed on ad-hoc or temporary basis.
- (2) The seniority inter-se of the members of the Service, appointed on the basis of the result of Competitive Examination / Limited Departmental Examination shall be determined according to the Merit List prepared by the concerned authority.
- (3) Where two officers are placed at the same position in the Merit List, the person senior in age shall be senior to the other.
- (4) The inter-se seniority of persons appointed in Grade-I in any year by way of promotion and direct recruitment, shall be determined by rotation on the basis of quota for promotees (50%), for promotees through limited departmental competitive examination (25%) and for direct recruitment (25%), that is to say 2:1:1.
- (5) A 40(forty) point roster is to be maintained for appointment / promotion to the post of Grade-I in Service. The posts at Sl. Nos. 1 & 2 will go to the promotees under

50% quota. The post at Sl. No. 3 shall go to the promotee under the limited departmental competitive examination under 25% quota; and the post at Sl. No. 4 shall be available to direct recruit. This process shall be repeated till all the posts in the Grade – I cadre are filled up in the roster in manner stated:

Provided that the above roster will not affect the existing members of the service and this will be implemented prospectively.

- (6) In a given year those promoted to Grade-II of the Service by way of regular promotion shall be placed above the promotees selected through the Limited Departmental Examination in the seniority list.
- (7) Where more than one Officer is promoted to a cadre by the same order, the inter-se seniority of persons so promoted shall be determined by their inter-se seniority in the lower “Cadre” unless directed otherwise.
- (8) The High Court shall prepare and publish a seniority list of Officers in all Cadres from time to time and the list so published shall be used for the purpose of consideration for promotion to the next higher cadre.”

4. **Amendment of Schedule-B**

The existing Schedule-B of the Principal Rules shall be substituted by the following words:

“SCHEDULE-B

COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION

A. FOR DIRECT RECRUITMENT & PROMOTION TO GRADE-I UNDER LIMITED DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATION:-

A competitive examination for recruitment to the service in Grade - I shall be conducted by the High Court as per the schedule prescribed in Malik Mazhar Sultan Case. The examination shall be conducted with the following syllabus, namely:-

Paper-I: One paper of 100 marks (duration not less than 2 hours) to test the General Knowledge, aptitude, intelligence, test of comprehension and expression of law and General English including Essay Writing on legal topic and Information Technology.

Paper-II: One paper of 100 marks of not less than 2 hours duration regarding objective questions and problems of law as regards the Transfer of Property Act, Civil Procedure Code, Code of Criminal Procedure, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, Indian Evidence Act, Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, Indian Penal Code, Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Limitation Act.

Paper-III: One paper of 100 marks (duration not less than 2 hours) consisting of Judgment writing (Paper Book to be supplied) – Legal theories on jurisprudence, provision of the Constitution of India.

NOTE: The candidate is expected to refer to the relevant decisions of the Apex Court and the High Court while writing answers in Paper-II and III.

Interview: Viva-voce – 50 marks.

B. FOR PROMOTION TO GRADE-II UNDER LIMITED DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATION:-

A competitive examination for recruitment to the service in Grade – II shall be conducted by the High Court for accelerated promotion of Civil Judge (Junior Division) candidates having minimum qualifying service of 3 years. The examination shall be conducted with the following syllabus, namely:-

01. Law Paper – I – 100 marks

- a) Constitution of India,
- b) Code of Civil Procedure,
- c) Transfer of Property Act,
- d) Indian Contract Act.

02. Law Paper – II – 100 marks

- a) Indian Penal Code,
- b) Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita,
- c) Criminal Procedure Code,
- d) Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita,
- e) Indian Evidence Act,
- f) Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam,
- g) Law of Torts.

03. Paper-III: One paper of 50 marks (duration not less than 1 hour) consisting of Judgment writing (Paper Book to be supplied).

NOTE: The candidate is expected to refer to the relevant decisions of the Apex Court and the High Court while writing answers in Paper-I, II and III.

C. FOR DIRECT RECRUITMENT TO GRADE-III OF THE SERVICE:-

Competitive examination for recruitment to Grade-III of the Service shall be conducted as and when vacancy arises. The examination shall be conducted by the Commission and the High Court in accordance with the following syllabus:

English – 100 marks

- a) Essay writing,
- b) Précis writing,
- c) Grammar etc.

Bengali – 100 marks

- a) Translation of an English Passage into Bengali – 25 marks
- b) Translation of a Bengali Passage into English – 25 marks
- c) Essay writing – 30 marks
- d) Report writing to newspaper on social / specific problem to publish it to draw the attention of the Authority – 20 marks

Total = 100 marks

General Knowledge – 100 marks

- a) Objective Type,
- b) Aptitude Test.

Law Paper – I – 100 marks

- a) Constitution of India,
- b) Code of Civil Procedure,
- c) Transfer of Property Act,
- d) Indian Contract Act.

Law Paper – II – 100 marks

- a) Indian Penal Code,
- b) Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita,
- c) Criminal Procedure Code,
- d) Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita,
- e) Indian Evidence Act,
- f) Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam,
- g) Law of Torts.

Interview: Viva Voce – 100 marks

D. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:-

- (i) All candidates who obtain sixty percent or more in the written examination shall be eligible for viva voce examination:

Provided that Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates who obtain fifty percent or more in the written examination shall be eligible for the viva voce examination.

- (ii) The object of the viva voce test is to assess the suitability of the candidate for the cadre by judging the mental alertness, knowledge of law, clear and logical exposition, balance of judgment, skills, attitude, ethics, power of assimilation, power of communication, character and intellectual depth.
- (iii) A candidate must secure minimum 30% marks in the viva voce to be eligible for being recommended for appointment to the Service in Grade-I as well as in Grade-III.

The marks obtained in the viva voce will be added to marks obtained in the written examination in case of Grade-I and in the main written examination in case of Grade-III and the position of the candidate in the merit list will depend on the aggregate of both."

5. Amendment of Schedule-C

- (i) In Schedule C, below the heading 'From Grade-III to Grade-II' after Clause (iii) the following shall be inserted:

"(iv) Additionally, the following factors are to be considered as per the following marking system:-

- (a) ACR of the Judicial Officers of the preceding five years – 50 marks
- (b) Judgment evaluation – 50 marks

N.B.– The following marks/units to be allotted regarding ACR grading:

Outstanding:	10 marks
Very Good:	8 marks
Good:	6 marks
Average:	4 marks
Below Average:	2 marks"

- (ii) In Schedule C, below the heading 'From Grade-II to Grade-I' after Clause (iii) the following shall be inserted:

"(iv) Additionally, the following factors are to be considered as per the following marking system:-

(a)	The quality of Judgment rendered by the officers	25 marks
(b)	ACR of the Judicial Officers of the preceding five years	25 marks
(c)	Disposal rate in the preceding five years	50 marks
(d)	Performance of the Officers in the viva voce including their updated knowledge of law, general perceptions, awareness and	35 marks

N.B.— The following marks/units to be allotted regarding ACR grading:

Outstanding:	5 marks
Very Good:	4 marks
Good:	3 marks
Average:	2 marks
Below Average:	1 mark

6. Amendment of Schedule-D

The existing Schedule-D of the Principal Rules shall be substituted by the following words:

“SCHEDULE-D

A. Training Course for officers appointed in Grade-I (Direct Recruitment)

After appointment to Grade-I of the Service by direct recruitment an officer shall undergo a **Foundation Course** of 04 months (16 weeks) as under:

Foundation Course

Duration: 04 months (16 weeks)

Phase I: Institutional Training at the Tripura Judicial Academy (08 weeks)

Phase II: Practical Training by Court attachments and field visit (06 weeks)

Phase III: Reflective Training at the Tripura Judicial Academy (02 weeks)

B. Training Course for officers appointed in Grade-I (Regular Promotion & Promotion under Limited Departmental Examination)

After appointment to Grade-I of the Service by Regular Promotion & Promotion under Limited Departmental Examination an officer shall undergo an **Orientation Course** of 04 weeks as under:

Orientation Course

Duration: 04 weeks

Phase I: Institutional Training (03 weeks)

Phase II: Practical Training (01 week).

NB 1: The Officers who are appointed by direct recruitment and did not have Bengali as one of the subjects in his Secondary or equivalent examination shall have to undergo **Bengali Language Proficiency Course** (Writing, Reading, and Communication Skills) during his Training at the Tripura Judicial Academy.

NB 2: Before the completion of the training necessary order of posting shall be issued so that the officers may join at their respective place of posting.

There shall be an Induction Training Course for a period of one year (52 weeks) for officers appointed to Grade-III of the Service as per the below-noted training schedule:

Induction Training Course

- (i) 12 weeks Academic Training at Judicial Academy
- (ii) 12 weeks Court annexed Training including Field Visits
- (iii) 08 weeks Academic Training at Judicial Academy
- (iv) 02 weeks Excursion Trip including visit to Courts situated outside the State
- (v) 12 weeks Court annexed Training
- (vi) 06 weeks Academic Training at Judicial Academy

Methodology of Training

- (i) Lectures.
- (ii) Writing of draft Judgments and orders.
- (iii) Discussions on decisions of important Cases both at the Trial Stage and at the Appellate Stage.
- (iv) Actual working on Computers and understanding cyber crime modalities.
- (v) Weekly review of courses by presentations by officers/group discussion/interaction.
- (vi) Communication skill development by holding discussions/debate on selected issues/problems.
- (vii) Visit to Tripura High Court, Legislative Assembly, Secretariat, State Forensic Science Laboratory, Police Stations, Jail, Revenue Courts, Registration offices etc. to observe their actual functioning and study different types of registers being maintained there.
- (viii) Taking to educational excursion.
- (ix) Practical demonstration of various forensic tests at Forensic Laboratory including DNA tests and crime scene creation.
- (x) Practical demonstration of post-mortem examination and injury report preparation.
- (xi) Holding mock courts, presentations by participants, writing draft orders/judgments while undergoing field training.

The training shall focus on the following areas:

- 1. Attitude
- 2. Ethics
- 3. Skills
- 4. Knowledge

NB 1: Module of the Induction Training shall be prepared by the Director, Tripura Judicial Academy under the directions and guidance of the High Court;

NB 2: After completion of one year Training Course, the trainee Officer shall be required to appear in the examination to be conducted by the Judicial Academy under the directions and guidance of the High Court; and failure to pass the examination may result in extension of probation period.

The syllabus for the examination will comprise the subjects listed below:

01. Civil Procedural Law
02. Criminal Procedural Law
03. Civil substantive Law & Constitution
04. Criminal substantive Law ”

7. Amendment of Schedule-E

The existing Schedule-E of the Principal Rules shall be substituted by the following words:

“SCHEDULE-E

A. For filling of vacancies in the cadre of Grade-I in respect of:

- (a) twenty five percent vacancies to be filled by direct recruitment from the Bar; and
- (b) twenty five percent by promotion through Limited Departmental Competitive Examination (LDCE) of Civil Judges (Senior Division) not having less than three years of qualifying service.

Sl. No.	Description	Date
1.	Number of vacancies to be notified by the High Court. Vacancies to be calculated including (a) the existing number of vacancies. (b) the anticipated vacancies for the next year. (c) some candidates to be included in the wait list. (d) vacancies arising due to deputation of Judicial officers to other department may be considered as temporary vacancy.	31 st March
2.	Advertisement inviting applications from eligible candidates.	15 th April
3.	Last date for receipt of application.	30 th April
4.	Publication of list of eligible applicant. List may be put on the website.	15 th May
5.	Dispatch/issue of admit cards to the eligible applicants.	16 th May to 15 th June
6.	Written examination. Written examination may be (a) objective questions with multiple choice which may be scrutinized by the computer; and (b) subjective/narrative	30 th June

7.	Declaration of result of written examination (a) Result may be put on the website and also published in the newspaper. (b) The ratio of 1:3 of the available vacancies to the successful candidates be maintained.	16 th August
8.	Viva Voce	1 st to 7 th September
9.	Declaration of final select list and communication to the appointing authority (a) Result may be put on the website and also published in the newspaper. (b) Select list be published in order of merit and should be double the number of vacancies notified. (c) Select list shall be valid till the next select list is published.	15 th September
10.	Issue of appointment letter by the competent authority for all existing vacant posts as on date.	30 th September
11.	Last date for joining.	31 st October

B. For filling of vacancies in the cadre of Grade-I in respect of fifty percent vacancies to be filled by promotion.

Sl. No.	Description	Date
1.	Number of vacancies to be notified by the High Court. Vacancies to be calculated including (a) the existing number of vacancies. (b) the anticipated vacancies for the next year. (c) some candidates to be included in the wait list.	31 st March
2.	Publication of list of eligible officers. (a) The list may be put on the website. (b) Zone of consideration should be 1:3 of the number of vacancies	15 th May
3.	Receipt of judgments from the eligible officers.	30 th May
4.	Viva Voce Criteria (a) ACR for last five years; (b) Evaluation of judgments furnished; and (c) Performance in the oral interview.	15 th to 31 st July
5.	Declaration of final select list and communication to the appointing authority (a) Result may be put on the website and also published in the newspaper. (b) Select list be published in order of merit and should be double the number of vacancies notified.	31 st August
6.	Issue of appointment letter by the competent authority for all existing vacant posts as on date.	30 th September
7.	Last date for joining.	31 st October

C. Appointment through promotion in Grade-I of the Service shall be conducted simultaneously with the process of filling up of vacancies by LDCE and shall adhere to the Schedule prescribed in Malik Mazhar Sultan Case as far as applicable.

D. For filling of vacancies (90%) in the cadre of Grade-II to be filled up by promotion.

Sl. No.	Description	Date
1.	Number of vacancies to be notified by the High Court. Vacancies to be calculated including (a) the existing number of vacancies. (b) the anticipated vacancies for the next year. (c) some candidates to be included in the wait list.	31 st March
2.	Publication of list of eligible officers. (a) The list may be put on the website. (b) Zone of consideration should be 1:3 of the number of vacancies.	15 th May
3.	Receipt of judgments from the eligible officers.	30 th May
4.	Criteria (a) ACR for last five years; and (b) Evaluation of judgments furnished.	1 st to 16 th August
5.	Declaration of final select list and communication to the appointing authority (a) Result may be put on the website and also published in the newspaper. (b) Select list be published in order of merit and should be double the number of vacancies notified.	15 th September
6.	Issue of appointment letter by the competent authority for all existing vacant posts as on date.	30 th September
7.	Last date for joining	31 st October

E. For filling of ten percent vacancies in the cadre of Grade-II by promotion through Limited Departmental Competitive Examination (LDCE) of Civil Judges (Junior Division) not having less than three years of qualifying service

Appointment through LDCE in Grade-II of the Service shall be conducted simultaneously with the process of filling up of vacancies by promotion and shall adhere to the Schedule prescribed in Malik Mazhar Sultan Case as far as applicable.

F. For appointment to the posts in the cadre of Grade-III by direct recruitment.

Sl. No.	Description	Date
1.	Number of vacancies to be notified by the High Court. Vacancies to be calculated including (a) the existing number of vacancies. (d) the anticipated vacancies for the next year. (e) some candidates to be included in the wait list.	15 th January

2.	Advertisement inviting applications from eligible candidates.	1 st February
3.	Last date for receipt of application.	1 st March
4.	Publication of list of eligible applicants. The list may be put on the website.	2 nd April
5.	Dispatch/issue of admit cards to the eligible applicants.	2 nd to 30 th April
6.	Preliminary written examination. Objective questions with multiple choice which can be scrutinized by the computer	15 th May
7.	Declaration of result of preliminary written examination (a) Result may be put on the website and also published in the newspaper. (b) The ratio of 1:10 of the available vacancies to the successful candidates be maintained.	15 th June
8.	Final written examination. Subjective/narrative.	15 th July
9.	Declaration of result of final written examination (a) Result may be put on the website and also published in the newspaper. (b) The ratio of 1:3 of the available vacancies to the successful candidates be maintained. (c) Dates of interviews of the successful candidates may be put on the website which can be printed by the candidates and no separate intimation of the date of interview need be sent.	30 th August
10.	Viva Voce	1 st to 15 th October
11.	Declaration of final select list and communication to the appointing authority (a) Result may be put on the website and also published in the newspaper. (b) Select list be published in order of merit and should be double the number of vacancies notified.	1 st November
12.	Issue of appointment letter by the competent authority for all existing vacant posts as on date.	1 st December
13.	Last date for joining	2 nd January of the following year"

8. **Insertion of Rule 27 in the Principal Rules:**

- (i) In the Principal Rules, after Rule 26, the following new Rule shall be inserted as Rule 27: –

“27. Power to make Regulations.– The High Court may make Regulations for carrying out the purposes of these Rules and of giving effect to the objectives contained therein.”

- (ii) The existing Rule 27 of the Principal Rule shall be renumbered as Rule 28.

By Order of the Governor,



(Sankari Das)
L.R. & Secretary, Law
Government of Tripura